REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, ALASKA 724 POSTAL SERVICE LOOP #6000 FORT RICHARDSON, ALASKA 99505-6000

APVR-GC 3 November 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: US Army Garrison, Alaska Holiday Safety Message (Veterans Day Weekend)

- 1. Veterans Day is a time in which we pay homage to the veterans of our nation's Armed Forces. Honoring our veterans reminds us that freedom is not without cost. Being a member of our Armed Forces is a demanding task and brings with it hardships, both in war and peace. I want to thank each of our Soldiers and civilians for their support of this great nation. It is through brave, selfless and giving Soldiers, past and present, that we have the privilege of living in this great country.
- 2. In recognition of this honored holiday, we are afforded the opportunity to enjoy a well deserved extended holiday weekend. During this period, I encourage all Soldiers and civilian employees to take advantage of this opportunity to relax and share some quality time with family and friends.
- 3. As you make plans and prepare for the holiday, I urge you to keep safety in mind when engaging in various activities. Should you choose to travel and drive to your destinations, be alert to possible hazardous road conditions and remember to take periodic breaks when driving long distances. According to the United States Army Safety Center, off-duty privately owned vehicle accidents continue to be the leading cause of accident related fatalities within the US Army. Excessive speed, driver fatigue, and driving under the influence are the most common factors associated with these accidents. Commanders and leaders at all echelons ensure our Soldiers and civilian employees are made aware of these high risk factors, as well as the hazards of Alaska winter driving and holiday travel. Let us all do our part to reverse this adverse trend and put an end to needless loss of lives.
- 4. I ask all of you to be careful. Enjoy the holiday and return safely!

COL, MP Commanding

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